

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and examination of the above-identified application in view of the election made herein and the arguments regarding examination of the two species. The following remarks state the Applicants' bases for making this request and are organized according to the Examiner's action.

The Examiner states that the above-identified application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

First Species: Figures 1-7 (Claims 1-14)

Second Species: Figures 8-13 (Claims 15-23).

The Examiner states that the species are independent or distinct because they are mutually exclusive. The Examiner advises that the Applicants are required to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable and he has determined that currently, no claims are deemed to be generic. Further, the Examiner states that a listing of all claims readable on the elected species must be provided.

The Examiner further states that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

ELECTION

Applicants elect the First Species Group, Figures 1-7 and submit that the claims readable on the elected species are Claims 1-14.

However, Applicants wish to traverse on the grounds that the First Species (a protective wrap for covering an intravenous site on a hand) is closely related to the Second Species, and may not present a serious burden on the Examiner after the examination of the First Species, if the Examiner continues to examine the Second Species (a protective wrap for a hand of a baby). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the examination of the claims covering the Second Species along with the examination of the First Species in order to advance the examination of the patent application, and of course, although not a requirement of an Examiner, minimize the prosecution expenses of the Applicants, who are small entity business people.

If there are any questions, we urge the Examiner to call us. Please charge any cost in connection with this document to our Deposit Account No. 16-0875.

Respectfully submitted,
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By

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